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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES**

Application Number: 09/677,493

Filing Date: October 02, 2000

Appellant(s): YANG, GUANG

George Guang Yang, Ph. D.  
For Appellant

**EXAMINER'S ANSWER**

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 03/04/2008 appealing from the Office action  
mailed 11/28/2007.

**(1) Real Party in Interest**

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

**(2) Related Appeals and Interferences**

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

**(3) Status of Claims**

This appeal involves claim 1-7.

**(4) Status of Amendments After Final**

No amendment after final has been filed.

**(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter**

According to 1205.02, the brief of a pro se appellant which does not contain all of the items, \*\*>(i) to (x)<, specified in 37 CFR \*>41.37(c)(1)< will be accepted as long as it substantially complies with the requirements of items \*\*>(i) through (iv) and (vii) through (x).<

#### **(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal**

According to 1205.02, the brief of a pro se appellant which does not contain all of the items, \*\*>(i) to (x)<, specified in 37 CFR \*>41.37(c)(1)< will be accepted as long as it substantially complies with the requirements of items \*\*>(i) through (iv) and (vii) through (x).<

Appellant's brief presents arguments relating to claim objection. This issue relates to petitionable subject matter under 37 CFR 1.181 and not to appealable subject matter. See MPEP § 1002 and § 1201.

#### **(7) Claims Appendix**

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

#### **(8) Evidence Relied Upon**

6,005,560 B1	Gill et al.	12-1999
6,256,773 B1	Bowman_Amuah	07-2001
6,104,334	Allport	08-2000
5,801,701	Koppolu et al.	09-1998
5,644,739	Moursund	07-1997
5,815,665	Teper et al.	09-1998

### **(9) Grounds of Rejection**

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gill et al. (US. Patent No. 6,005,560) in view of Bowman-Amuah (US. Patent No. 6,256,773 B1) and further in view of Allport (US. Patent No. 6,104,334).

Regarding on claim 1, Gill teaches an integrated relational database data editing system providing the visual environment, graphic user interfaces and tools in the client computer to remotely access a server computer that contains a relational database and to manage and edit the database data contents through either the intranet or the Internet, and said system includes the following mechanism and characters:

(i) said client computer retrieves the database data from the remote server computer database, modifies, updates, input, output the data (col. 4, lines 43-51) and then sends the data back to the original database (col. 10, lines 13-15); and

(ii) said client computer directly edits and modifies the data base data without writing detail computer language codes in an efficient and easy-to-use manner (a text object is used to user interface 60) (col. 4, line 66-67);

(iii) said client computer directly edits and modifies the large text data type and large binary data type by using a plurality of commercial text (text editor 64) (col. 4, line 66) and multimedia data editors (picture 64B, movie editor 64C, sound editor 64D to optionally edit the multi-media object) installed on the client computer (col. 5, lines 1-18);

(iv) said database editing system use TCP/IP (Transfer Control Protocol/Internet Protocol) based on connection-oriented network to communicate between the client and server computers (fig. 4, S4 indicate the client connects to the network and for retrieving the data form the server) (col. 4, lines 40-51); and

Gill does not explicitly teach said database data editing system implements the user authentication and access controlled mechanisms which assign different groups of with different privileges and the editing system edits the content stored in the relational database. However, Gill teaches the multi-media presentation access controller 320 controls access to the project coordinator 24 by establishing the validity of a staff member's logon name and password...the multi-media objects representation access controller 320 also establishes the authorization staff member to access the multi-media objects 304 related to a selected multi-media presentation. Once access to the project coordinator 24 is granted, access privileges are checked to determine which multi-media presentation, multi-media representation section and multi-media

object type a staff member can potentially access as long as the multi-media project management and control system 20 client application being used by the staff member can process the multi-media object file type" (col. 8, lines 49-62). On the other hand, Bowman-Amuah discloses said database data editing system implements the user authentication and access controlled mechanisms, which assign different groups of with different privileges (Repository access can sometimes be controlled using an access control function, which comes with the repository. A common technique is to ~~group~~ users and assign ~~different access rights to the different groups~~. Each of these groups are also assigned specific read/write/delete/modify authority. For example, the following groups may be defined as having increasing rights...) (paragraph 1031). This suggests the common technique such as assign different access right to the different groups. The motivation is to allow certain users belong to an access right group to gain access and given a limited number of authority to be perform on that specific data. Further more, Gill does not explicitly teach the editing system edits the content stored in the relational database. However, Gill discloses "the multi-media project management system and control system has a number of different databases for storing multi-media...." (col. 2, lines 46-50). This suggests the one of the database is the relational database. On the other hand, Allport discloses "a relational database of entries is maintained each entry describing multiple features of a particular title or program such as the time of day of its showing..." (col. 7, lines 60-66) and "editing an object causes a pop-up menu appear with the available options to edit. Options include the name, the image, the function (label, navigation, sending, IR

commands, edit, etc.) a copy and paste objection and save and exist options" (col. 24, lines 28-31). Allport suggests editing entries stored in the relational database.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Gill and Bowman-Amuah system to include editing the contents stored in the relational database as taught by Allport in order to allow organized data in the table to be edit convenience by the click of mouse.

Regarding on claim 4, Gill teaches a list of databases (VAC1, VAC2, VAC3) (3204) (fig. 32) and database tables for each database, and

- (i) a Details Panel is popped up when double-clicked the database name (col. 16, lines 48-49); and
- (ii) a database is popped up when double-clicked the table name (col. 15, lines 5-8).

Regarding on claim 6, Gill teaches a client/server version of the integrated database data editing system is implemented by using Java technologies and deployed and run on the intranet (internet) (col. 12, lines 57-67).

5. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gill et al. (US. Patent No. 6,005,560) in view of Bowman-Amuah (US. Patent No. 6,256,773 B1) and further in view of Allport (US. Patent No. 6,104,334) and further in view of Koppolu et al. (US. Patent No. 5,801,701).

Regarding on claim 3, Gill, Bowman-Amuah, and Allport do not explicitly teach database manager in said client computer comprising: a Header Panel and a Detail

Panel, which provides a user friendly environment and tools to manage and edit the database data contents.

Koppolu teaches database manager (20) (col. 3, lines 66-67 and col. 4, lines 1-3) comprising: a Header Panel (3204) (fig. 32) and a Detail Panel (3205) (fig. 32), which provides a user friendly environment and tools to manage and edit the database data contents (window tools) (3203) (fig. 32). These are the equivalent to the claimed invention. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the Gill, Bowman-Amuah and Allport system to include the database manager to include a Detail Panel as taught by Koppolu in order to provide layout structure in to allow the user to visualize and select tables for editing.

6. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gill et al. (US. Patent No. 6,005,560) and in view of Bowman-Amuah (US. Patent No. 6,256,773 B1) and further in view of Allport (US. Patent No. 6,104,334) and further in view Koppolu et al. (US. Patent No. 5,801,701) and further in view of Moursund (US. Patent No. 5,644,739).

Regarding on claim 5, Gill, Bowman-Amuah and Allport teach the subject matter except for a DB designer for creating and modifying the database. Koppolu teaches a DB designer for creating and modifying the database (editing the spreadsheet document by the spreadsheet application) (col. 7, lines 53-64)

Gill, Bowman-Amuah and Allport and Koppolu do not explicitly teach (ii) an ER Designer for editing and displaying the database data structure and micros; and (iii) a

Table Designer for designing the database tables; and (iv) a DB Schema for designing and displaying the database data structure and macros; and (v) a Data filter for selecting a set of data from one or more database files; and (vi) a SQL console for writing and executing the SQL codes. On the other hand, Moursund teaches, “the tool bar 112 for editing the and displaying the data structure and the Macros, by clicking on the design the tool bar allow the tables to be edited, changed or deleted, selecting the tables to build the SQL statements and generating SQL statements to produce query results” (col. 5, lines 39-45 and fig. 4G). This teaches the tool bar of Microsoft access application to allow the user to edit or change the database structure and displaying it on the window. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Gill, Bowman-Amuah, Allport and Koppolu system to include the tool bar of Microsoft access to edit or modify the database structure as taught Moursund in order to allow the user to see the entire process and user ease of use.

7. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gill et al. (US. Patent No. 6,005,560) and in view of Bowman-Amuah (US. Patent No. 6,256,773 B1) and further in view of Allport (US. Patent No. 6,104,334) and further in view of Koppolu et al. (US. Patent No. 5,801,701).

Regarding on claim 2, Gill, Bowman-Amuah and Allport teach the database editing system of claim 1 contains the well defined graphic user interfaces and tools that display a database table or a subset of data of a table and have the following

characteristics: (iv) said commercial data editor is popped up (pop up menu) from the local client computer when double-click the small icon of the table cell by the mouse and the database data is down loaded into the data editor from the remote database and is sent back to the original database when data editing is completed (col. 16 lines 48-49); and (v) said data editor is either a text editor or multimedia editor depending on the data type inside the table cell (text editor or multi-multi-media editor) (col. 5, lines 1-33). Gill, Bowman-Amuah and Allport do not explicitly (i) said database data on each table cell is defaulted as read only; and (ii) said database small text data on each table cell is directly edited when single-click by the mouse; and (iii) said table cell contains a small icon as a place holder for the large text data type or large binary data type. Koppolu discloses (i) said database data on each table cell is defaulted as read only; and (ii) said database small text data on each table cell is directly edited when single-click by the mouse; and (iii) said table cell contains a small icon as a place holder for the large text data type or large binary data type (fig. 4 and col. 8, lines 25-46). This suggests fig. 4 has a graphical user interface and including spreadsheet having cell as defaulted as read only, the cell can be edit by using the cursor or clicking on the cell and the call having dropping down menu for holding the large text. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Gill, Bowman-Amuah, Allport and Koppolu to include has a graphical user interface and including spreadsheet having cell as defaulted as read only, the cell can be edit by using the cursor or clicking on the cell and the call having dropping down menu for

holding the large text as taught by Moursund in order to allow the user with the editing tools to use in an easy manner.

8. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gill et al. (US. Patent No. 6,005,560) in view of Bowman-Amuah (US. Patent No. 6,256,773 B1) and further in view of Allport (US. Patent No. 6,104,334) and further in view of Teper et al. (US. Patent No. 5,815,665)

Regarding on claim 7, Gill, Bowman-Amuah and Allport teach a web server of the database editing system of claim 1 is implemented by using web and Java Technologies and deployed on Internet and other network system (Internet) (col. 13, lines 58-67); however, Gill does not explicitly teach further has more advantages to implement the security features by using the Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and Secure Socket Layer (SSL). On the other hand, Teper teaches, “the client application 42 passes the challenge message to the MSN SSP package 44A via the InitializeSecurityContext API. In response to his API call, the MSN SSP package 44A generates and return the response message, and computes a session key which may be used for the subsequent encryption of data between the client and server application 42, 52, and that other applications will instead use standard encryption protocols such as the Secure Sockets Layer protocol or the Private communications Technology protocol.) (col. 17, lines 23-33). This teaches the database data are sent between the client and server using Secure Socket Layer and key encryption to send the database data between client and server. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary

skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the Gil, Bowman-Amuah and Allport system to include both key encryption and secure socket layer as taught by Teper in order to protect the database data transferring from the server to client or over the unsecured internet.

#### **(10) Response to Argument**

##### Claims 1, 4 and 6.

Applicant argues "Gill does not teach anything related to a relational database or teach anything related to data editors (except using commercial text, picture, movie, and sound editors) similar to the integrated database data editing system taught in my invention claim 1-7."

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. As explained previous office action, gill teaches the commercial editing system, which allow the user to authenticate and edit the retrieved text and multimedia object (col. 4, lines 64-67). Gill discloses the retrieved data is coming from different database. The examiner interpreted one of the database could have been the relational database. Therefore, Gill suggested the data editing system could include the relational database.

Applicant argues "Gill's system does not use relational database and the file server does not contain a relational database. Gill only use the commercial editors, which are totally different from my integrated database data editing system..."

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. As indicated above, the commercial editing system, which allow the user to authenticate and edit the

retrieved text and multimedia object (col. 4, lines 64-67). Gill discloses the retrieved data is coming from different database stored in the server. The examiner interpreted one of the database could have been the relational database. Therefore, Gill suggested the data editing system could include the relational database. Further more, the examiner provided the second reference Allport to support the rejection such as Allport a relational database of entries (col. 7, lines 60-66), which allow editing of object using pop up menu (col. 44, lines 28-31).

Applicant also argues “Gill et al. use the text and multi-media commercial editors in the client computer to edit the combined data objects but do not use the relational database. Allport uses a relational database in the IR controller to store some parameters. None of them teaches anything similar to my integrated database data editing system as disclosed in my invention.”

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. It appears that the applicant argues that the teaching of Gill and Allport does not disclose applicant's invention. The examiner provide evidences such as Gill teaches the commercial editing system, which allow the user to authenticate and edit the retrieved text and multimedia object (col. 4, lines 64-67). Gill discloses the retrieved data is coming from different database. The examiner interpreted one of the database could have been the relational database. Therefore, Gill suggested the data editing system could include the relational database. In addition, Allport's disclosure provide support for editing system (col. 44, lines 28-31) using a relational database (col. 7, lines 60-66).

Applicant argues "Gill et al. does not explicitly teach what the file server 28 is, where the file server is located, and how the multi-media objects are retrieved from the file server. Gill's file server contains no relational database and is not related to my integrated database data editing system as the present invention. Gill et al. do not teach anything related to my present invention which uses the client visual environment, tools and data editors to retrieve and edit the server relational database data contents."

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. The claim 1 does not require where the file server 28 is located and the claim also does not require how to retrieve multi-media objects. Applicant claim 1 only requires to retrieved the data from the remote server computer database, modifies, updates, input, output the data (col. 5, lines 12-25) and send the data back to the original database which clearly show by Gill in (col. 10, lines 10-17).

Applicant argues "Gill et al. fails to teach what the user interface and text editor are, and how the data is edited..."

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. Gill discloses text and multi-media object editors (col. 4, lines 64-67). Since Gill does not required to write any special code for edit; therefore, Gill uses conveniences editing tool to edit text and multi-media objects.

Applicant argues "Gill's system does not use relational database and the file server 28 does not contain a relational database. Gill's user interface and commercial editors are totally different from my integrated database data editing system..."

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. The remote server computer database, modifies, updates, input, output the data (col. 5, lines 12-25) and send the data back to the original database which clearly show by Gill in (col. 10, lines 10-17).

Applicant argues “Gill et al. (col. 4, line 66, col. 5, liens 1-18, fig. 64A-D) user the commercial text editor, picture editor, movie editor and sound editor to retrieve and edit the multi-media objects from the project coordinator and file server (not database), which is not similar to my claim 1 (iii) wherein “said client computer directly edits and modifies the large text data type and large binary data type by using a plurality of commercial text and multimedia data editors installed on the client computer.”

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. As Gill discloses commercial text editor, picture editor, movie editor to edit text and multi-media objects from different database and the multi-media editors are installed on client computer (col. 4, line 66, col. 5, liens 1-18, fig. 64A-D).

Applicant argues “Gill et al. fail to teach what computer networking software and protocols are used to communicate the file server. Gill et al. (fig. 4, col. 4, lines 40-51) teach that a cable links the computer processor P to network, the client applications communicate with project coordinator, utility program... which is different from my claim iv wherein “said database editing system use TCP/IP (Transfer Control Protocol/Internet Protocol) based connection-oriented network protocols to communicate between the client and server computers.”

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. Gill's system utilizes the Internet to retrieve data from the external source using the Internet protocol (col. 12, lines 57-67) for editing.

Applicant argues "Gill et al. do not teach anything related to secure the access to my integrated database editing system as described in my Claim 1(v) that "said database data editing system implements user authentication and access control mechanism which assigns different user group with different privileges."

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. Gill discloses the id and password login to gain access (col. 8, lines 49-55). The "said database data editing system implements user authentication and access control mechanism which assigns different user group with different privileges" was disclosed by Bowman-Amuah (col. 8, lines 50-55).

Applicant argues "my invention first time uses these security mechanism in the integrated database data editing system, which is different form the arts of Gill et al. Bowman-Amuah and Allport."

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. Gill discloses the feature of authentication of user and access control mechanism such as user name and password login (col. 8, lines 50-55). The limitation such as assign different user groups with different privileges suggest by the Bownan-Amuah in (col. 53, lines 23-29 or paragraph 1030).

Applicant argues “Bowman-Amuah does not invent the technique to assign user group the different access rights. It is one of the industrial standards to assign different access rights to different user group. I use it the first time to implement my integrated database data editing system in the present invention. Bowman-Amuah does not teach anything related to my claim 1(v) “said database data editing system implements the user authentication and access control mechanism which assign different user group with different privileges.”

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. First of all applicant admits that assigning different user group with different privileges is an industrial standard, in another word well known in the art. Since Gill discloses the usage of user authentication using user name and password to gain access and retrieve the data from the database (col. 8, lines 50-55), each of the users is assigned with different level of access privileges, which required to be set up before time. Therefore, by include the teaching of Bowman-Amuah further clarify that Gill’s system would required the Bowman-Amuah to assign different user name and password and allow the user to again access to database based on each of user privileges (paragraph 1031). Since Gill discloses the usage of user authentication using user name and password to gain access and retrieve the data from the database (col. 8, lines 50-55), each of the users is assigned with different level of access privileges, which required to be set up before time. Therefore, by include the teaching of Bowman-Amuah further clarify that Gill’s system would required the Bowman-Amuah to assign different user name and

password and allow the user to again access to database based on each of user privileges.

Applicant argues “None of them invent these security mechanisms. I use these security concepts of industrial standards to implement my integrated database data editing system in the different ways as those of Gill et al. and Bowman-Amuah.”

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. The security mechanism as claimed in claim 1 is not being created by the applicant. Further more, the security concepts such as id and password which was disclosed by Gill in (col. 8, lines 50-55) and assign different user names and passwords for different users to gain access to database on each of user privileges (paragraph 1031).

Applicant also argues “Allport use a relational database to store some parameters entries inside his remote controller and uses a pop up menu to display and edit options of the parameters, which is different from my present invention.”

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. Allport discloses the usage of relational database to maintain the entries of records (col. 7, lines 60-66), the records in the relational database could have been edit by the user by causing the pop up menu with option to edit (col. 44, lines 28-31). The editing system required the entries to be retrieved from the relational database wherein the relational database could have been at local or remote server (outside data source such as the internet) (col. 27, lines 46-47).

Applicant argues “Allport’s remote control does not relate to Gill’s multi-media project management and control system for printing, nor relate to Bowman-Amuah’s

system for program code version control, and none of their system is similar to my integrated database data editing system."

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. As explained above, Gill discloses a multimedia editing system using text editor and multimedia editor to edit data retrieved from the file server (col. 5, liens 1-33). Gill lacks of teaching is a relational database system, which as disclosed by Allport. Allport and Gill share a commonality of data editing system which when combined allow Gill's system to access and edit the data from the Allport's relational database. Gill also uses a security mechanism such as user name and password to gain access to data storage (col. 8, lines 50-55). Gill lacks of assign different user group with different privileges. Bowman-Amuah discloses assign different access right to different groups (paragraph 1031).

Applicant argues "Gill et al. does not teach anything related to a relational database, nor anything related to my claim 6 where the client/server version of the integrated database data editing system is deployed and run on the internet."

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. Gill discloses the multi-media editing system which edit multi-media object stored in the server (col. 5, lines 1-33) or the file server 28 over the internet (col. 12, lines 61-67). Such disclosure in (col. 12, lines 57-67) suggests the multi-media editing system is client/server and run on the internet.

Claim 3.

Applicant argues “Koppolu et al. do not explicitly teach anything related to the database data manager in the client computer comprising a header panel and a detail panel as in claim 3.”

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. Gill et al., Bowman and Allport do not disclose the header panel and a detail panel; however, Koppolu discloses header panel as 3204 and detail panel 3206 and 3207, which allows the user to select using a mouse click (fig. 32 and col. 60, lines 26-36).

Claim 2.

Applicant argues “Koppolu et al. (fig. 4, col. 8, lines 25-28) teaches the spreadsheet object as it appears when activated in place within the compound document. The spreadsheet object 405 is edited directly in the client window 404 of the word processing application. Koppolu et al. directly edit the spreadsheet object in the word processing application inside the client window, which is totally different from my claim (2)(i)-(iii) where the graphic user interface and tools are used to display and edit the relational database data retrieved from the remote server database.”

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. Koppolu discloses the user interface including default of the object, the spreadsheet include table having cell which can be clicked by the mouse and cells table contains large data text (fig. 4, col. 8, lines 25-28). Koppolu's interface includes the tool to edit the object in the cell of the spreadsheet which is similar to editing the object stored in the relational database.

Claim 5.

Applicant argues “Moursund discloses Microsoft Access database is a simple relational database which can only support small data types, can only run on PC and the user interface cannot separate from the database, which is totally different form my claim 5...”

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. Moursund discloses database manager include list of databases and database tables for each database and a detail panel popped up... which allows editing of text and data (fig. 4a-4g and col. 5, lines 39-45).

#### Claim 7

Applicant argues “Gill et al. and Allport do not teach a system deployed and run on the Internet and also intranet. Gill et al. (col. 13, lines 58-67) teach a method to place the text objects and picture objects on a document page, which is totally different from my claim 7 where web version on integrated database data editing system is implemented with the Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and Secure Layer (SSL) and deployed on Internet or also intranet.”

The examiner respectfully disagrees with the above argument. Gill discloses the system deployed and run on the Internet and also Internet as previously explained. The use of Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and Secure Layer (SSL) is not taught by Gill; however, Teper discloses the Online Brokering Service including use of Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and Secure Layer (SSL) to protect the data being access from the Internet or Intranet point of view.

**(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix**

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

Examiner

/Baoquoc N To/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2162

Conferees:

/J. B./

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2162

/Vincent Trans/  
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SPRE/QAS TC 2100